IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Gerrit J. Keesman

Serial No. 08/901,338

Filed: July 28, 1997

Atty. Docket No. #22/E 4/17/98 tcoley

PHB 33-946A

Group Art Unit: 2713

Examiner: A. Rao

Title: BUFFER MANAGEMENT IN VARIABLE BIT-RATE COMPRESSION SYSTEMS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated December 10, 1997, please amend the above-identified application as follows (the time for responding having been extended for one month by the accompanying Petition):

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) A method of compression for transmission of encoded digital video signals having a variable number of data bits per image frame, comprising the steps of:

    a) detecting a first bit rate of an encoded digital video signal bit stream;

    b) sequentially writing the encoded digital video signal bit stream into an encoder buffer at the first bit rate;

    c) deriving a second bit rate as a percentage of the first bit rate, which percentage changes inversely in relation to changes in the first bit rate; and